

A soldier in a camouflage uniform and cap stands in the foreground, looking off to the side. In the background, a large military aircraft is visible, slightly out of focus. The overall tone is serious and professional.

# THE **WOLVERINE** GUARD

Fall 2001

**New World  
New Mission**

A publication of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard

# Bullets

## Bank of America will take your money

As of October 2001, if members are 120 days delinquent on their government Bank of America credit card, money will be taken from their pay. For more information, contact Ms. Debra Doss at the United States Property and Fiscal Office for Michigan at (517) 483-5792 or Bank of America at (800) 472-1424.

## Bank of America will deactivate your credit card

The Department of Defense and Bank of America have agreed to deactivate cardholders accounts who fall under one of the following categories: Card issued more than 12 months ago and never used; card issued and used but not used in the last 12 months; card issued and used but with less than \$1,000 in charges in the last 12 months. The change took effect Oct. 2, 2001. To have your card reactivated, call Ms. Debra Doss at (517) 483-5792.

## Family News

A new interactive Family Readiness Group Leader's Handbook is available at [www.ari.army.mil](http://www.ari.army.mil).



## Automatic Family Coverage

As announced Sept. 10, 2001, the new family coverage for SGLI will begin Nov. 1. The automatic enrollment will apply to military members who have family members in the DEERS system. Enrollment forms for those who do not have current DEERS listings are available at [www.insurance.va.gov/forms/forms.htm](http://www.insurance.va.gov/forms/forms.htm). For more information on this SGLI coverage, see page 21 of this issue of "The Wolverine Guard."

**Supplemental Money for Retirement**  
AGR and traditional (M-day) Guard members may now add to their retirement savings using the Thrift Savings Plan, a government retirement and investment program formerly available only to technicians. When TSP is used by AGR and traditional Guardsmen, it should not be relied upon as a 20-year retirement plan but as a supplemental investment. Members are able to enroll during the "open season," Oct. 9 through Dec. 8. More information is available at your unit or visit the TSP website at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov).

**Change in State or Component**  
Army Guard officers planning to transfer to another state (interstate transfer) or planning to join another service component must be granted a conditional release from Army Personnel-Officer Branch. Officers making an interstate transfer will need section V of DA Form 4817 completed by Officer Branch; officers leaving the Guard for another component will need section II of DD Form 368 completed by Officer Branch. Health and dental records must accompany the release request. For more information, contact Mrs. Lindy Wilberding at (517) 702-5133.

## Contingency Ops Health Benefits on Hold

In the Summer issue of "The Wolverine Guard," it was announced that congress voted to pay for 100 percent of a military technician's health benefits when deployed, allowing technicians to maintain normal coverage for their families. The issue is now on hold as the Department of Defense reviews the legality of it. We will pass on more information, as we receive it.

## Family Support Moves South

The State Family Support Office has moved to the Southland Annex (1/2 mile south of Lansing Headquarters). The new phone number is (517) 702-5116.

## Makin' Copies

Michigan Army Guard units may now send printing requests via e-mail to [pubsmi@mi.ngb.army.mil](mailto:pubsmi@mi.ngb.army.mil).

## State Partnership Ribbon

Gov. John Engler recently authorized the State Partnership Ribbon for Guard members and civilians who have deployed overseas as part of the State Partnership Program or Partnership for Peace Program and have provided training, assistance or mentorship to the country of Latvia or other developing countries identified in the State Partnership Program. The award is issued by the award authority following publication of permanent orders.



## NCOs: Guardians of our Past, Present and Future

The 11th Annual Michigan Army National Guard NCO Ball will be held Feb. 2, 2002 in Lansing at the Holiday Inn South, \$25 per person. See your first sergeant for tickets.

## Times New Roman, 12 Point

Army Regulation 25-50, Preparing and Managing Correspondence, directs Army memorandum writers to use the times new roman font, 12 point for all mission-related memorandums. Arial font should be used for the letterhead.

## Saucer Cap/Pot Hat/Bus driver Hat

The Army green service cap/hat was recently eliminated as an optional uniform item due to its cost and infrequent wear. Soldiers should wear the garrison cap with Class A and B uniforms until they receive their beret.

## To BE-ret or Not to BE-ret

Fielding of the Army beret has been re-worked, post-phoned and delayed but apparently, it's finally been implemented. However, the new plan, which spans 10 months, is already a month behind and puts the Michigan Army Guard dead last. Look for the beret Spring 2002...or later.





# TAG TALK



## “Homeland” for the Holidays

On November 15, 2001, the Secretary of Defense announced Michigan's selection for the stationing of a Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (WMD CST). This welcome, but long overdue announcement, came about as a result of a concerted legislative effort led by our Commander in Chief, Gov. John Engler and our Washington congressional delegation.

This full-time, 22 person, WMD CST, will give the Michigan National Guard another valuable resource to help the people of our state respond and recover from the effects of a bioterrorist attack. Next month's issue of *The Wolverine Guard* will contain an in-depth look at the team and their state of the art equipment, as well as, the services they'll be able to provide.

The timing of this announcement coincides with one of our organization's most dynamic periods of state and national service. Currently, nearly 800 members of the Michigan Army and Air National

Guard are on orders for Homeland Defense, or Force Protection. The extraordinary missions and operations we're supporting may very well reflect the future of the National Guard.

While the terrorist tragedies of September 11 have dramatically brought home the realities of Homeland Defense to the American people, the National Guard has been uniquely poised, since its earliest beginnings, to respond to crises. The very nature of our state and federal missions, not to mention our constitutional responsibilities, single us out as the organization designed to provide military resources to Homeland Defense missions.

Whenever our communities, state, and nation have needed us, we've been there doing everything within our means to lend a hand. Without exception, all of our members currently working in airports, at the borders, on alert and protecting our vital resources are being recognized daily for their professionalism and dedication.

Through the weeks, months and holidays ahead, we should remember to thank our families and employers for their uncommon patriotism and support during these uncertain times. We should rededicate ourselves to the noble service we provide and reassure our friends, families and neighbors that our crisis response capabilities are among the best in the nation.

Preserving liberty requires uncommon vigilance and tremendous sacrifice. Because of you, America is a safer and better place. The citizens of our state and nation are profoundly grateful and indebted to you and your families for all you do to secure our freedoms and liberty. As you celebrate this holiday season, I hope each of you find joy, peace and comfort in the many blessings we enjoy in this great land of ours. Best wishes for a happy, safe and prosperous New Year.

*E. Gordon Stump*  
The Adjutant General of Michigan



*Col. John Leatherman, 46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division commander, and I visited Guard members working homeland defense duties in Michigan airports across the state. Master Sgt. Jim Passini, 51st Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team, gears-up in a fully encapsulated chemical resistant suit. It was recently announced that the 51st would become a full-time Guard unit. (Left photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins; right photo by Capt. Dawn Dancer)*

# Those Who Served

## Michigan National Guard (Retired)

### Who Are You?

Military retirees must have a valid Armed Forces identification card when visiting most military facilities including the exchange, commissary and recreation or medical buildings, including TRICARE locations. You may obtain an I.D. card at most military service installations by appointment.

I.D. cards require Defense Enrollment Eligibility Report System (DEERS) information. This is critical, because it insures eligibility for health related benefits. It is also important that current addresses and family status, such as marriage, divorce, birth, adoption or death, is updated within the DEERS database. Address changes may be made by calling DEERS at 1-800-538-9552. All other changes must be made at a military service installation.

To verify a dependent's status, bring the appropriate documents, such as a marriage certificate, birth certificate, adoption papers or paperwork that supports a student's status.

Any of the following locations can process I.D. cards and DEERS information, regardless of your branch of service:

Alpena Combat Readiness Center  
(517) 354-6474  
Battle Creek Air National Guard Base  
(616) 969-3216  
Grand Rapids Navy-Marine Center  
(616) 363-6889  
Lansing National Guard Armory  
(517) 702-5116  
Sault Ste. Marie U.S. Coast Guard  
(906) 635-3242  
Selfridge Air National Guard Base  
(810) 307-4516

### Which Category Are You?

Category 1: Gray Area Retiree (prior to age 60 and not receiving retirement pay)

Category 2: Retiree (age 60 or over and receiving retirement pay)

### Retiree and Eligible Dependents Benefits (partial list)

Exchange Privileges (PX/BX)

Commissary

Shoppettes

Service Stations

Golf Courses

Lodging

Health Benefits (category 2 only)

Any questions or concerns pertaining to your military retirement may be directed to Mr. Ken Baldwin, state military retirement program administrator at 517-483-5692 or e-mail [kenneth.baldwin@mi.ngb.army.mil](mailto:kenneth.baldwin@mi.ngb.army.mil).

## THE WOLVERINE GUARD

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**Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles and information for publication to:** The Wolverine Guard, 2500 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48913 or call the editor at (517) 483-5813.

*Commander in Chief*

Gov. John Engler

*Adjutant General*

Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump

*Assistant Adjutant General for Army*

Brig. Gen. Robert V. Taylor

*Assistant Adjutant General for Air*

Brig. Gen. Ronald L. Seely

*State Public Affairs Officer*

Maj. James G. McCrone

*Air Guard Public Affairs Officer*

Maj. Scott A. Stokes

*Editor*

Capt. Dawn D. Dancer

*Managing Editor*

Master Sgt. Tom Springer

*State Photographer*

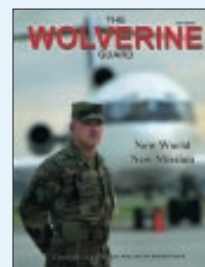
Sgt. Ron Raflik-Army

Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins-Air



### Retirees Remember

**Focus on Retirees:** Retired Chief Warrant Officers Charlie Parkinson (top) and Sam Pardee say they miss the friendships they developed during their 80 years of combined Michigan Guard service, although they keep in touch with many Guard friends, meeting for breakfast or golf. Both men joined the Guard in 1953 and say the biggest changes between then and now are the pay and benefits and automation. These days, Parkinson is busy with the Holt Food Bank, the Lions Club and grandchildren. Pardee volunteers at the State Library, the American Legion and tends to 4,500 square feet of flower gardens. (Photos by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)



Sgt. Robert Hess, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, is one of nearly 800 Michigan Army and Air National Guardsmen on duty for Operation Homeland Defense. Hess is providing airport security at one of 17 Michigan airports. See pages 8-9 for September 11-related stories. (Cover photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)

# Base Improvement Team Earns Quality Cup

*By Master Sgt. Randolph Snow  
110th Fighter Wing*

The Adjutant General's annual Quality Cup was recently presented to the 110th Logistics Group Phase Inspection Improvement Team by Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general. The cup is awarded annually for a quality process that significantly improves a work process.

"This team is responsible for evaluating, planning and executing an aircraft phase improvement program for the A-10 fleet assigned to Battle

Creek," said Lt. Col. Thomas Allen, who submitted the team for the award.

The team wanted to increase the average time it took to phase-on the entire fleet, bring it back up to standard and remain at or above the standard. They reviewed the factors that affected timely phase inspections and determined that they had the most control over "specialist availability."

From there, the team developed a long-range plan/goal to accomplish

ten phase inspections by March 2000, which would allow them to meet the planned overseas deployment in May 2000. They developed a dedicated phase inspection team that combined specialties from all areas of maintenance.

"The concept conceived and activated by this team exceeded the goal," said Allen. "They completed all the inspections plus one, two months ahead of schedule and they elevated the average time to phase, above the 200 hour standard."

Team members include Lt. Col. Robert Heath, Capt. Estrella Rodgers, Chief Master Sgts. Phil Carlson, Stuart Nobel and Thomas Rose and Senior Master Sgts. Paul Dungey and Thomas Stoner.

## Stream of Recognition

### Internal Review Division Wins Award of Excellence

*By Terri Michaelson  
United States Property and Fiscal  
Office, Public Affairs Representative*

Tucked away in the basement of the United States Property and Fiscal Office for Michigan, is a small, but committed group of professionals. This team is no stranger to awards, having received the National Guard Bureau's Excellence in Auditing and Four Star Award in 1999 and the NGB One Star Award in 2000. Mike Keeler, the section's supervisor, also received recognition, a NGB Certificate of Appreciation, for extensive contributions to NGB's Internal Review during fiscal year 2001. This impressive stream of recognition explains why they won a Department of the Army Award of Excellence and took second place, worldwide, among mid-sized internal review offices, beating out the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Europe



*Awards in hand, from left to right, are Spc. Ryan Taber, Mike Keeler, Carol Siver, Terri Michaelson, Harvey Jones and David Milligan. Missing from the photograph are M-day staff members Lt. Col. Donald Pipes and Warrant Officers Mike Laferriere, Herbert Larson and Jerry Powers. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)*

and TRADOC.

The "award-winning" staff provide full-scope audits, consulting and advisory, process action teams and quick response audits to units and directorates of the Michigan National

Guard. The auditors strive to find potential cost savings, streamline procedures and ensure internal controls are present.

To request an audit, units and directorates should call (517) 483-5716.





Construction has begun at the Grand Ledge Army Aviation Support Facility on a memorial dedicated to area men and women, of all services, who have died in the line of duty in the past 50 years. The memorial will include brick paths, benches and two helicopters--an AH-1 Cobra and a UH-1 Huey--that will be mounted to appear as if they are about to fly over a hill. A June ground breaking ceremony included (left to right) Lt. Col. Cary Cuyler, Army Aviation Support Facility commander; Mrs. Ada Mae Beagle, widow of Lt. Col. Clair Burpee, the only Michigan Army National Guard aviator killed in a helicopter accident; Col. Alan Peterson, state army aviation officer; Mrs. Beverly Mayhew, widow of Col. Lawrence Mayhew, former AASF commander; 1st Sgt. Patrick O'Brien, who initiated the idea of a memorial; and Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)



Last year, during a civic leader tour of Latvia, a Michigan businessman was shocked by the lack of basic necessities at a Latvian orphanage and was moved to donate a handicap assessable bus. After nearly of year of paperwork, the bus, donated by Mr. Kellie Dean, president of Dean Transportation, has arrived. In the above photograph, orphanage staff and children check-out their new mode of transportation. The Michigan National Guard has been partnered with Latvia, through the State Partnership Program, since 1992.

This young citizen, (right) who joined her parents for the 44th Annual Mackinac Bridge Walk, would like to take a humvee for a test drive but she can't see over the windshield. The humvee was used by the Michigan National Guard task force of military police, engineers and infantrymen assigned to provided assistance with traffic control, security and public information during the event. (Photo by Sgt. Ross Stevens, unit public affairs representative, Company A, 107th Engineer)

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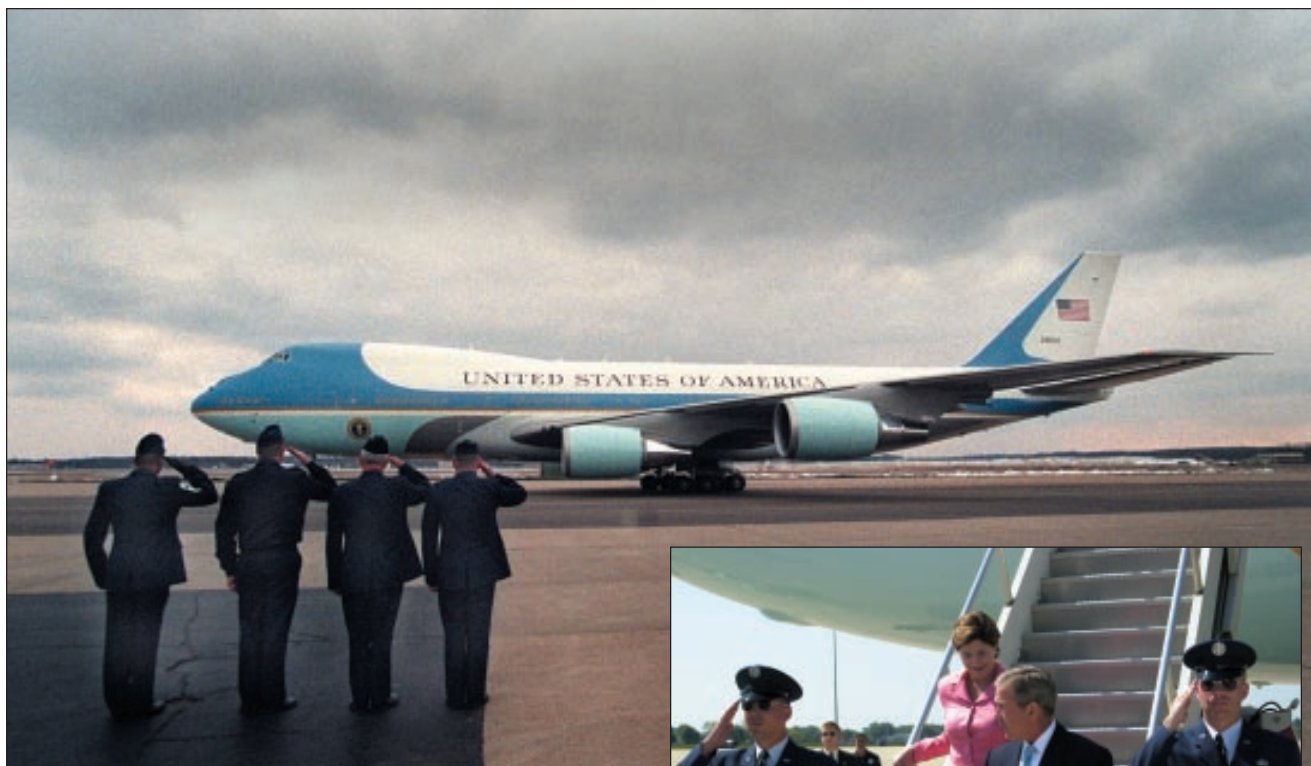


U.S. Sen. Carl Levin and State Sen. John Schwarz help Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump and Brig. Gen. Robert Taylor cut a ribbon to formally open the Augusta Armory. The \$6 million armory houses the Regional Training Institute; the 119th Service Battery; the 126th Press Camp Headquarters; Detachment 1, Company B, 146 Forward Support Battalion; Detachment 1, 1462 Transportation Company; the state marksmanship team; and a local recruiter. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)



During the August annual training period at Camp Grayling, members of Company A, 107th Engineers, reclaimed Camp Grayling's "engineer rock," which had been covered with military police and signal emblems. The rock, now repainted engineer red, prominently sports the engineer emblem--a castle--and is surrounded by a triple-standard concertina fence. A sign has been posted with a warning, "DO NOT DISTURB BY THE ORDER OF CG-FE." (Photo courtesy 107th Engineers)





Whenever Air Force One lands or departs from a military installation, the president is sure to receive plenty of sharp salutes. It was no different this summer when President and Mrs. George W. Bush (right) arrived at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base or when they (above) departed from the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base. (Right photo by Senior Master Sgt. James O. Tenney, base visual information manager; bottom photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)



The Michigan Army National Guard received plenty of attention when members and family of Company B, 156th Signal Battalion, Adrian, in conjunction with the Adrian VFW Post, raced a slick little camouflaged go-kart in the Annual Lenawee Mini Grand Prix. The team placed 25th out of 44 and received three trophies: Best Car-Uniform Combination; Best Cold Pit Area; and Best Team Spirit. Participating in the event are, from left to right, Staff Sgt. Larry Bedolla, Jessica Seymore, Mark Tenniswood, Spc. Lori Burke and Sgt. Rick Burciaga. All proceeds from the race went to Junior Achievement of Lenawee County.



Elevation and deflection look good but will the round hit the target? Actually, many rounds hit their target during the first-ever Guard-Smacker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament and Open House, sponsored by Battery C, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, of Albion. In addition to the basketball tournament (designed to get potential recruits to the armory), visitors witnessed a squad react to enemy ambush and could try on chemical suits and night vision devices.



# Eye Witness to History

## Gen. Taylor Survives Pentagon Attack

*By Master Sgt. Tom Springer  
State Public Affairs Office*

On the morning of Sept. 11, Brig. Gen. Robert Taylor was with a group of generals at the Pentagon for a briefing on reserve force readiness. Readiness is the kind of thing that good generals are always concerned about – they need to know how many soldiers are available for rapid call-up and deployment.

Little did they know that readiness would soon take on a more personal meaning.

“Just after we started our meeting, someone came in said ‘A plane just hit the World Trade Center.’ At the time, they thought it was a little commuter job,” said Taylor, who is the Michigan Army National Guard’s assistant adjutant general.

“Then a few minutes later, they came back and said a second plane had hit. That’s when the realization

sunk in that this was a coordinated terrorist attack.

Several of us commented that, ‘And here we are, sitting at Ground Zero,’ which was what the Pentagon was called during the Cold War.”

Moments later, a hijacked American Airlines 757 crashed into the building about 100 yards away, claiming the lives of 189 military and civilian employees.

“I heard the engines whistle by just before impact, and I thought we’d been hit by a missile,” Taylor said. “It was horrific. The Pentagon is a massive, hardened facility and it takes an incredible force for anything to shake this building like it did.”

The room cleared out as the generals moved hastily into the E-ring corridor. Taylor was impressed by what he saw. Security guards were escorting hundreds of civilians and



military personnel out of the Pentagon. No one was running, no one was screaming or in a state of panic.

Despite the orderly exodus, Taylor’s military instincts made him uneasy with the situation. “I wasn’t real excited about being with a

large group of people who were exiting the front of a building that was under attack.”

Taylor knows the Pentagon well, so he and other members of his committee took another route. On the way, they passed a courtyard that was filled with smoke and broken glass. About six minutes later, the group left the Pentagon on the side opposite the explosion.

They had just survived the Pearl Harbor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, yet Taylor was still in proper uniform — even in the rush to leave the briefing room, he had the presence of mind to grab his hat and jacket. The room was later destroyed by fire.

Once outside, Taylor walked the four blocks to his hotel where he (continued page 10)

### Excerpts from the Presidential Address to the Nation

**The Treaty Room  
October 7, 2001**

In the months ahead, our patience will be one of our strengths -- patience with the long waits that will result from tighter security; patience and understanding that it will take time to achieve our goals; patience in all the sacrifices that may come.

Today, those sacrifices are being made by members of our Armed Forces who now defend us, and by their proud and worried families. A commander in chief sends America’s sons and daughters into a battle in a foreign land only after the greatest care and a lot of prayer. We ask a lot of those who wear our uniform. We ask them to leave their loved ones, to travel great distances, to risk injury,

even to be prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice of their lives. They are dedicated, they are honorable; they represent the best of our country. And we are grateful.

To all the men and women in our military, I say this: Your mission is defined; your objectives are clear; your goal is just. You have my full confidence, and you will have every tool you need to carry out your duty.

The battle is now joined on many fronts. We will not waiver; we will not tire; we will not falter; and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail.

Thank you. May God continue to bless America.



*Sgts. 1st Class Don and Monika Wade bow their heads during a prayer service held at Michigan National Guard Headquarters, on Sept. 14, the National Day of Prayer. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)*



# A Volunteer Army of One

## Staff Sgt. Dean Knudsen Answers the Call

*By Master Sgt. Tom Springer  
State Public Affairs Office*

Millions of Americans were struck with an urge to do something useful in response to the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. Some attended prayer services; others gave blood or made donations to the Red Cross.

For Staff Sgt. Dean Knudsen, there was only one acceptable course of action: Get in the car, drive 12 hours and volunteer for military duty amid the smoking ruins of the World Trade Center.

"I couldn't just sit on my couch and do nothing," he said. "Helping out in the community alone was not enough. This was an immediate attack on my country, and my freedom, and I reacted."

When he heard the news, Knudsen and his wife were getting ready to take their 3-year-old son to his first day of preschool. Instead, Knudsen left their home in Howell and drove straight through to lower Manhattan.

Arriving at 11 p.m., he showed his military I.D. at checkpoints, and explaining that he was there "to help with the relief efforts" gained entry to Ground Zero. Minutes later, near a Red Cross shelter, he met a captain from the 101<sup>st</sup> Cavalry, New York Army National Guard.

"I told him I was a volunteer, and he took my social security number and said I'd be accountable to him," Knudsen said.

After a quick change into his BDUs, Knudsen was issued a Kevlar helmet, flak vest and M-16 rifle. By 11:30 p.m., he joined a patrol of New York Guardsmen in securing the debris-strewn neighborhoods near the collapsed twin towers.

"We didn't see any looters," Knudsen recalled. "People only wanted to come back and get their stuff, but we couldn't let them in because the buildings were unsafe. It was tough – a lot of people were crying. They said their pets needed food and water."

For the next six days, Knudsen served in a unique status as an unpaid volunteer Guardsman. He would see the best and worse elements of the tragedy – the endless recovery of body parts, the tireless commitment of rescue workers, an emotional President Bush perched on a mound of rubble, addressing firefighters with a bullhorn.

"It was a time that called for drastic measures and drastic measures were taken. They turned a Burger King and a McDonalds into a morgue. They hauled out the food from the walk-in coolers and filled them up with human remains."

After he reported in the night of September 11, Knudsen worked 37 hours nonstop. Finally, his unit was



*Staff Sgt. Sean Knudsen, a member of 2nd Battalion, 177th Regiment, stationed at Fort Custer, stands a few blocks from the shell of what was the World Trade Center in New York City.*

relieved and sent back for rest and a hot shower at the Staten Island Armory. "We looked like hell and we smelled like hell," he said. "The most memorable picture I have is of the smoking towers in the background as the ferry came past the Statue of Liberty. We saw that every day coming to and from work."

After nearly a week, the Guard unit that had taken Knudsen in was federalized for active duty. A unit NCO offered to put him on orders, but Knudsen declined. "I appreciated the offer, but I have other responsibilities and can't be away that long," he said.

Back home in Michigan, Knudsen is trying to return to normal – or what passes for normal since September 11. (continued page 16)

# Airlift squadron wins the Spaatz

## And a brief look back

By Capt George DiMichele  
127th Wing



***A Michigan Air National Guard C-130 cargo plane at dawn.***

For the second year in a row, the Michigan Air National Guard seized the Spaatz Trophy, giving Michigan the distinction of having the most outstanding National Guard flying unit in the nation. Last year, the honor, awarded annually by the National Guard Association of the United States, was given to the 172nd Fighter Squadron, Battle Creek. This year it was bestowed upon the 171st Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base

In the 1970s, the 171st flew the venerable F-106 Delta Dart. It was during this time that the name “Six Pack” (pack of F-106 aircraft) was born

and served as the unit identifier.

In 1978, the unit retired the F-106 and entered the F-4 era. For the next decade, 171st aircraft flew from their “alert det” (air alert deployed station) in North Carolina, to the East Coast to intercept soviet “bear bombers.” This, coupled with a 24-hour alert assignment at home in Michigan, put the squadron at the proverbial “tip of the spear” for purposes of national defense.

As U.S. – Soviet competition began to wind down in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the 171st converted to the F-16 fighter jet. This sleek high technology aircraft served the unit

well as they transitioned from an interceptor mission to a fighter air-to-air mission. However, as the Nation scaled back its fighting forces, the 171st felt the effects with the end of the fighter era in 1994.

Next, the unit received an airlift mission and converted to the C-130 cargo plane.

As the 1990s unfolded, the U.S. and her allies continued to respond to the challenges posed by Iraq. The 171st was part of the response with personnel and aircraft supporting Operation Southern Watch in the late 1990s through 2000.

In addition to the demands of the no-fly-zone enforcement, the nation also witnessed the break up of what was once Yugoslavia. Unfortunately, that break up brought civil war and all the horrors that followed to that part of Europe. During this period, the 171st sent personnel and planes to support the U.S.-NATO Balkan policy on several occasions. In October 2001, the unit deployed again to Europe for Operation Joint Forge.

Other missions include Operation Coronet Oak (previously in Panama and now in Puerto Rico) and numerous humanitarian relief operations in Central and South America. The 171st was one of the first units on the ground in Honduras after Hurricane Hugo and first in Venezuela for flood relief.

## Eye Witness (continued from page 8)

notified his office and family of his successful escape. He spent the day watching events unfold on TV and meeting with staff at the nearby National Guard Bureau headquarters.

The NGB arranged for Taylor to fly home on a 727 which carried only four passengers. Upon arrival at Detroit’s Metro airport, he was met by an eerie sight. “We were the only thing on the

runway,” Taylor said. “There were no planes moving or taxiing, no baggage carts, no one moving around at all.”

Even more so than most Americans, Taylor’s personal involvement with the tragedy has left him with mixed feelings of anger and sadness.

“I’m mad about this, because it’s an attack on us and our way life. As a nation, we have to ensure that this can’t happened again,” he said. “And while I feel fortunate to have survived, I also feel a little guilty. Here are all these soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines that lost their lives. That’s what’s made all this difficult.”

On Monday afternoon before the attack, Lt. Gen. Timothy Maude, the Army’s deputy chief of staff for personnel, took time to chat with Taylor and other generals as they stood outside the Pentagon’s mall entrance. The next day, Maude was the highest ranking military official to die when Flight 77 slammed into the building.

“Tim Maude was a good friend, so that’s hard for me,” Taylor said. “You ask yourself, ‘How much of a safer place could anyone be than working at their desk in the Pentagon?’”



*Like so many other Americans, the September 11 terrorist attacks prompted Sgt. Major Danny Garceau to attach the American flag to his vehicle.*



# Michigan Air Guardsman named photographer of the year

*By Master Sgt. Tom Springer  
State Public Affairs Office*

Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins can recall the exact moment when he discovered that his mission in life was to take photographs.

He was 15, and had just taken a picture of some firefighters with his Kodak Brownie camera. As he watched his photo develop in a friend's darkroom, he was smitten with a passion that has never subsided. "It just reached out and grabbed me. When I saw that picture coming, I was consumed with the desire to become a photographer."

Atkins pursued his dream, and has worked for more than 30 years as a professional photojournalist, including 22 years with the Associated Press.

Along the way, his images have appeared in newspapers nationwide, and on the covers of Time, Newsweek and Life magazines. On assignment, he's covered the Super Bowl, World Series, Indy 500 races and numerous presidential campaigns and political conventions. He's received several state and national awards, and in 1976, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in photography.

Yet Atkins says the highest honor came earlier this year when he was named Air National Guard photographer for the year 2000. The national competition is judged by the Multimedia Support Center at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard base in Tennessee.

"Winning this award is the highlight of my career so far," Atkins said. "It's bigger than just a single picture. You submit a portfolio of photos that has to be rated number one overall."

Atkins submitted photos of Army and Air Guard members in action. Like



*When Air Guard member Dale Atkins entered the National Guard Bureau photography contest, he didn't limit his photographs to Air Force topics. Many of his photographs include Army subjects like this UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter shown in the above background.*

most top-notch shooters, Atkins doesn't just take a photograph – he *makes* a photograph. Atkins says he may compose a photograph in his head weeks or even months before he actually takes it.

"One of the biggest problems with bad photos is that people don't pay attention to what happens in the background. Tying the background to the foreground is what makes the difference between an average picture and a great one."

Atkins is adept at using the latest digital cameras, but his weapon of choice is often a battered, but reliable 35mm Nikon. The 1973 model uses no batteries, has no light meter, and Atkins says its brass body is "hard enough to drive nails with." Yet when paired with his trademark wide-angle lens, the old Nikon war-horse has taken some of the best photos of Atkins' career.

"It's nice having high-speed equipment, but if you don't know what a good photo looks like, you're

still going to come back with crap," he said.

Atkins came to photography early in life, but the same cannot be said of his military career. He enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard – and went through basic training – at age

40. Since the usual cutoff age is 35, Atkins required a waiver that had to be signed by a three-star general at National Guard Bureau.

In 1993, Atkins transferred to the Air National Guard. He's now assigned as a

photographer with the 110th Fighter Wing, based in Battle Creek. During the week, he works as a photographer for the Visual Information office at the Michigan National Guard headquarters in Lansing.

Although he's 51, Atkins has no plans to retire. He's still enthusiastic about the Guard, and military photojournalism in particular. "I believe people in the military are heroes," he said, "and I think we should try to make them look that way."

---

*"I believe people  
in the military are  
heroes and I think  
we should try to make  
them look that way."  
Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins*

---



# Two Weeks

The many faces of

*Photos by Sgt.*



The brass section (left, top) of the 126th Army Band performs for guests during the all-units steak fry.

At Camp Grayling's Troop Medical Clinic, Spc. Kenneth Ganzie (left, center) tests out dental x-ray equipment on Spc. Willie Barnes.

Stewart Medal winner Sgt. James Higgins, Battery B, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, is recognized by Gov. John Engler and Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump (left, bottom) during the Annual Review and Memorial. The AGR NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. David Squier, Company C, 107th Engineer Battalion, stands by.

A cratering charge, (center, right), is used to clear an enemy avenue of approach.

A Michigan Guardsman (center, right) is recognized for his perimeter.

On the last day of annual training, Staff Sgt. David Thompson (right, top) receives the Stewart Medal.





# s in August

## of Camp Grayling

t. Ron Raflik



Company F, 425 Infantry,

(top) placed by soldiers of  
ers, explodes, denying the  
ach.

enter, below) secures the

aining, Sgt. Jeff Johnson,  
26th Armor, and Deana  
e marriage vows at the

Camp Grayling MATES, with Chaplain Jay  
Kendall officiating. Deana, who is not in the  
Guard, surprised her fiancé by showing up a day  
early for a wedding planned by Johnson's Guard  
family.

Chief Warrant Officer Five Rhea Pruett (right,  
center) salutes The Stars and Stripes during the  
Annual Review and Memorial.

Spc. Nathan Hug, 156th Signal Battalion, (right,  
bottom) conducts minor surgery on an ailing  
humvee.





# Getting Teenagers to Think About the Future

## JROTC Summer Camp

*By Capt. Dawn Dancer  
State Public Affairs Office*

Teenagers! Sometimes giggly, sometimes reserved and often sporting a misplaced attitude. They are also the military of the future. Enter: *The Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps Summer Camp.*



*Basic training is famous for push-ups; JROTC Summer Camp is no different (top photo). After a sharp salute, another cadet reports to National Guard cadre (left). A cadet practices a basic military skill, using a compass (right). (Photos courtesy Recruiting and Retention Command)*

The JROTC summer camp is a brief introduction to the United States military, with a focus on leadership techniques, citizenship building and problem solving. The camp is also designed to peak an interest in military service.

The JROTC program has been active in high schools throughout the country for 80 plus years. In Michigan, there are an estimated 9,100 Army, Air Force and Navy

cadets attending JROTC classes daily as high school course electives. The program is run by retired active duty personnel. Enter: *The Michigan National Guard*

In June, the Michigan National Guard hosted two back-to-back, one-week JROTC summer camps. The camps were planned and operated by the Michigan Army National Guard recruiting and retention command but many soldiers and airmen from units across the state volunteered to drill, mentor and counsel this group of young adults.

The camp includes marching, push-ups, MREs and team sports, but it's the one-on-one contact that seems to bring the biggest reward. "We get to know each cadet and focus on their personal interest or situation," said Capt. Shawn Harris, assistant camp commander and full-time recruiting operations officer. "If they are concerned about paying for (continued page 19)

## Michigan Army Guard Recruiters Hit High Numbers But Do Soldiers Want to Come to Drill?

*By Capt. Dawn Dancer  
State Public Affairs Office*

In September 1999, the Michigan Army National Guard was ranked 50th in the nation for overall strength readiness.

The ranking rose to 36th by Summer 2000, and by October 2000, the Michigan Army National Guard placed number one in the nation and stayed there through January.

The formula that places Michigan

at these levels isn't as simple as "the number of new recruits minus the number of losses." The formula includes, such items as, training pipeline losses, reenlistments and no-val pay--items that recruiters have no control over. So, to beat the formula, recruiters have been tasked to out-recruit the losses, a strategy, previously, never attempted. And the recruiters have delivered!

"Our recruiting force has done an outstanding job at bringing up our

numbers and they are to be commended," said Brig. Gen. Robert V. Taylor, assistant adjutant general for Army. "In addition, there have been other players contributing at many levels--directorates, commanders, unit retention NCOs, even spouses and families. We wouldn't be at the top without all this incredible teamwork."

"However, now is not the time to get complacent," warns Lt. Col. Mark Eitrem, director of recruiting and (continued page 21)



# Light Years Ahead

## The Training Before Basic Training

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Stone  
Recruiting and Retention Command

AUGUSTA, Mich.—For new Guard members participating in the Basic Training Orientation Program (BTOP) at Fort Custer, entering the weathered wooden barracks could be reminiscent of a World War II movie scene. The large open bays, dim light bulbs, and metal bunk beds are anything but modern.

These newly enlisted soldiers, without prior military experience, are required to spend one weekend learning and practicing fundamental tasks that have been common to soldiers throughout history. Although the surroundings are rustic, it doesn't take long for these young men and women to find out that this isn't the military of yesterday.

The soldiers arrive late on a Friday afternoon to begin three days of training. Their first stop is the high tech Distance Learning Center.

Still dressed in civilian clothes with anxious looks on their faces, the new Guard members are given the chance to become acquainted with the "Virtual Armory," a Web site for National Guard members. They are also given a Soldier Training Attrition Retention Tool, or START kit. The kit consists of a day planner, a basic training orientation video, and a T-shirt.

They are introduced to BTOP cadre, which consists of members of the 177th Regiment (Regional Training

*Throughout time the military may change but the "look" of the drill sergeant (top photo) remains the same. BTOP troops learn to disassemble and reassemble an M-16 to standard (near right) before ever reaching basic training. After completing the two-mile run, this troop (far right) just wants to be left alone; however, drill sergeants soon order him to "walk it off." (Top and far right photos by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins; near right photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Stone)*

Institute) and the Recruiting and Retention Command headquarters.

"The objective is not only to prepare you for Initial Entry Training," explains Sgt. 1st Class Donald Wade, RRC Operations NCO, "but also for the challenges you'll face throughout your service in the National Guard. It will put you light years ahead of your peers during basic training."

Additionally, soldiers are issued the battle dress uniform and taught how to make a military bunk.

It all makes for a long day and by the time the evening meal of sandwiches and chips arrives, the soldiers are more than ready to get some sleep.

However, not before the last

lesson of the day is presented. Master Sgt. Walter Kiersey, a former drill instructor and BTOP NCO, reveals the program's motto: NAME! EXPLAIN! DEMONSTRATE! AND MOTIVATE!

After the weary students recite these words in cadence, Kiersey describes how each subject presented throughout the weekend will follow that formula.

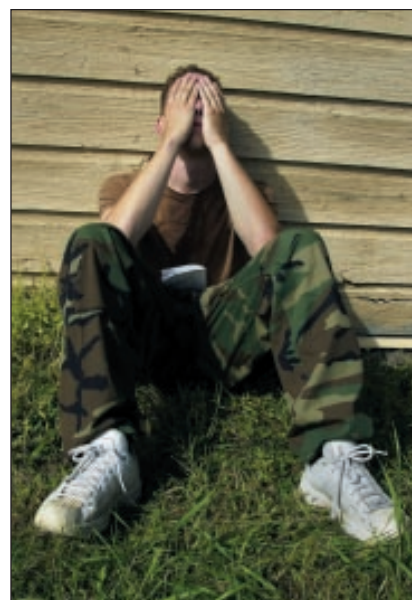
"We'll tell you what the task is called and how it's performed, then we'll show you how it's done and encourage you to practice and perform the task to standard."

With that, the day is done.

Before the soldiers know it, their barracks are filled with sergeants clad in physical training uniforms yelling to get the day started. For the next several hours the soldiers learn military style stretching, calisthenics, running and, of course, push-ups.

The rest of the day is filled with classroom instruction on such subjects as the Army Values, military customs and courtesies, and rank identification, with hours of marching in between, all designed to make life easier for these Guard members when they face basic training and advanced individual training.

As they march back to the barracks at the end of day two, these young men and women, who were wide-eyed and anxious the day before, are now (continued page 19)



# Infantry Gets Fired-up at Grayling

By Officer Candidate Kacie Foster-Merk  
Photos by Tech Sgt. Dale Atkins



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Dreffs trains Spc. Brian Kath (top photo) on the 50-caliber machinegun during live-fire training. A tow missile (left) live fires at Range 40, Camp Grayling. Cpl. Trent Henry (above) qualifies with the M-203 grenade launcher.

CAMP GRAYLING, Mich.—“Prepare to fire, death by wire!” was often heard this June at Camp Grayling.

For the sixth year in a row, the Fort Custer Regional Training Institute concurrently hosted six separate infantry training courses, including MOS qualification, the basic NCO course and the advanced NCO course for two separate MOS’ (11 hotel and 11 charlie).

Soldiers came to Camp Grayling from eight different states including Hawaii, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Oregon, Wisconsin and Minnesota. These soldiers qualified in a number of skills ranging from weapons qualification, land navigation, tactics and vehicle movement.

## INFANTRY REQUIREMENTS

MK 19 semi-automatic grenade launcher	9MM pistol
M14 and M18 anti-personnel land mines	Vehicle Identification
M21 anti-tank mine	Land navigation
50 Caliber Machine Gun	M60 machine gun
Assemble/disassemble weapons	Infantry tactics
Gunner skill training	Troop movements
TOW (tube launched optical track guided wire missile)	
HMMWV (highly mobile multi-purpose wheeled vehicle)	

## Army of One (continued from page 9)

He’s sleeping better now, after a few weeks of bad dreams and insomnia. He’s talked about his experience to family and friends, which has helped to defuse some of the anxiety.

However, even before September 11 it had been a tough year for Sean Knudsen. In June, Knudsen severed two fingers during a workplace accident in a factory. Then he turned 30, which the father of three said was sobering in its own right.

Knudsen was scheduled to return to work in October. But when the call came for increased security at Fort Custer, he

volunteered to work (this time for pay) as a gate guard. He also spends drill weekends at the post as an instructor for the Regional Training Institute.

“This hasn’t changed my plans about the Guard – I still plan to re-enlist next year,” said Knudsen, about his New York experience. “But it has made me appreciate life a lot more. I’m not quite sure how, but I really want to work as a civilian to help people in disaster situations.”



# Michigan Education Benefits

**By Steve Kozera**  
*State Education Officer*

In the past three years, more than 1,500 Michigan Army and Air National Guard members have had 50 to 100 percent of their college tuition paid. These soldiers and airmen are participating in either the Tuition Grant Program, State Education Reimbursement Program, Montgomery G.I. Bill or Montgomery G.I. Bill Kicker Program, or a combination of these programs.

Currently, 15 colleges and universities are participating in the *Tuition Grant Program*: Western Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, Northern Michigan University, Ferris State University, Lake Superior State University, Oakland University, Davenport University, Cleary College, Walsh College, Baker College, Rochester College, Siena Heights University, Kirtland Community College, Spring Arbor University and the University of Detroit Mercy. Each of these institutions are providing up to 45 percent off their tuition to Michigan Guard members.

In addition to the Tuition Grant Program, many members of the

Michigan National Guard are also eligible for the *State Education Reimbursement Program*. This year, Guard members receive a 50 percent reimbursement (up to \$2,000 per academic year) on tuition costs through this program.

The *Montgomery G.I. Bill* may be used in conjunction with state tuition assistance programs. In the Michigan Army National Guard it is offered to selected reserve officers, warrant officers and enlisted soldiers who enlist for six years. As a member of the Michigan Air National Guard, the Montgomery G.I. Bill is offered to selected officers and enlisted members. There is a 10-year period to use the program. For Army Guard members, the 10-year clock starts the day after the soldier completes their initial active duty training; for Air Guard members, it starts after the completion of basic military training. Members that never received the Montgomery G.I. Bill upon their initial enlistment may extend for six years to become eligible for this benefit.

*The Montgomery G.I. Bill Kicker*



*Steve Kozera, state education officer, guides Master Sgt. Dennis Hawn through the paperwork to receive state education benefits. Hawn is pursuing a Business Administration degree at Davenport University. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)*

is a monthly incentive in addition to the basic Montgomery G.I. Bill. Eligible Army Guard members include non-prior service enlistees, current Guard members, active Army transfers, lieutenants without a bachelor's degree, OCS candidates and ROTC SMP cadets; eligible Air Guard members include non-prior service enlistees, current Guard members and active duty transfers.

To ensure you are receiving all the state and federal educational benefits available to you, contact the State Education Office at (517) 483-5685/5469 or visit the Michigan National Guard Web site at [www.michguard.com](http://www.michguard.com).

## MPs Support Peace Keeping Overseas

**By Officer Candidate Kacie Foster-Merk**  
*State Public Affairs Office*

KINGSFORD, Mich.—Seventy-eight soldiers are trained and ready to carry out peacekeeping missions in Germany and Hungary. The 46<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, Kingsford, Mich. is supporting U.S. peacekeeping efforts in the Balkans with two separate 6-month rotations.

Halfway through the Hungarian rotation, a portion of the soldiers will return home, while another group deploys to replace them. The standard length for this type of deployment is six months, however this

deployment will be cut in half, marking the first time ever, that the U.S. Army has ever used an Army National Guard unit in an ongoing operation for less than 180 days. To comply with the standard deployment length, the rotation of military police will complete a tour from October through February.

"The tour of duty is scheduled for 179 days, but post mobilization exercises could extend the soldier's time away to 230 days," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Don Niemi, 46<sup>th</sup> MP Company.

The unit's mission is to provide

community law enforcement and force protection. Before departing, the unit conducted mobilization training for two weeks at Ft. Dix, NJ. The training included MK-19 semi-automatic grenade launcher qualification, European driver's training, country briefings, law enforcement, unarmed self-defense, and other necessary skills for deployment. Additional training was held at Fort Polk, La. and Camp Grayling, Mich. Both rotations are scheduled to return to the states in late February.

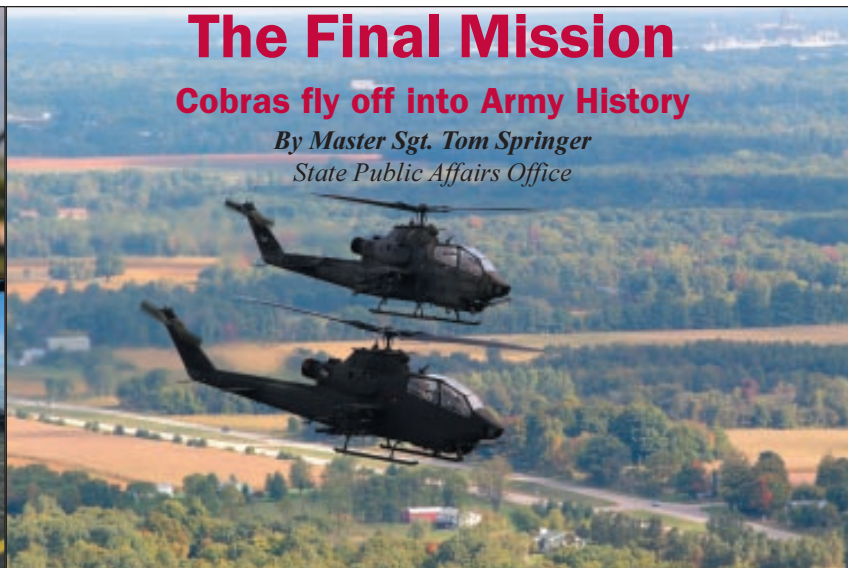




## The Final Mission

### Cobras fly off into Army History

By Master Sgt. Tom Springer  
State Public Affairs Office



As they've done hundreds of times since 1966, the two AH-1 Cobras lifted off from an Army helo pad and roared away on a mission.

Except from this mission there would be no return. The olive green warbirds from the Army Aviation Support Facility at Grand Ledge were bound for Fort Drum, New York, where they'll be decommissioned. The Army is removing Cobras from its inventory, and replacing them with the AH-64 Apache.

"We're giving them a nice sendoff, but it's kind of sad for us," said Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Keeney, of HHC, 1st Battalion, 238th Aviation. "Some of us were in Vietnam when the Cobras were new, and now four decades later, we're seeing them retire."

On September 27, about 60 soldiers, retirees and guests gathered at Grand Ledge for a brief ceremony. They were saying farewell to an aircraft that's been flown by Michigan Army Guard aviators since the mid-1980s.

According to Col. Al Peterson, state aviation officer, the Cobra's goodbye has been a longtime coming.

"When development of the Cobra began in 1965, it was considered an interim helicopter," Peterson said. "We heard that a lot back then, but the Cobras have surprised everyone and they're still flying."

Armed with anti-tank missiles, 2.75

inch rockets and a chin-turret 20mm cannon, the Cobra was the Army's first attack helicopter. The "interim" Cobra was supposed to be replaced in the early 1970s by the Comanche attack helicopter, but due to rising

---

***"I once heard my wife say that Cobras look sinister and that's what you want – something that scares people. You don't want something with a Thomas the Tank Engine nose that looks warm and fuzzy."***

***--Cobra Pilot Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Keeney***

---

costs, the Comanche program was canceled. The active Army didn't replace the Cobras until it began fielding the AH-64 Apache in the mid-1980s. Cobras were still in use during the Gulf War, where they proved lethal against Iraqi tanks and armored vehicles.

Pilots have always admired the Cobra for its speed and performance. Even its appearance, they say, is formidable. "I once heard my wife say that Cobras look sinister," said pilot Keeney. "And that's what you want – something that scares people. You don't want something with a Thomas the Tank Engine nose that looks warm and fuzzy."

At one time, the 1/238th Aviation was equipped with 24 Cobras. The numbers dwindled in recent years, as aircraft were pulled from service. After the unit's two operable Cobras departed for Fort Drum, only three remained at Grand Ledge. These will be stripped of their engines and weapons and used as museum displays in locations around the state.

The Army will eventually supply the 1/238th Aviation with the newer Apaches. In the meantime, the unit will fly the "interim" OH-58 Kiowa, an unarmed reconnaissance helicopter.

Fittingly, the four pilots who flew the Cobras to Fort Drum were all Vietnam veterans. One of them was Chief Warrant Dean Pode. He had two Cobras shot from beneath him while flying above the battlefields of Vietnam.

"I like Cobras – they're good machines," said Pode, who still bears a scar from a Cobra crash above his left eye. "That's why I've been flying them for 33 years."

*Warrant Officer Terry Longton, an OH-58 Huey Pilot (top, left) watches two Cobras depart from the Grand Ledge Aviation facility for the last time. Flying the final flights (bottom) are Warrant Officers Noah South, Russ Kogut, Andrew Keeney and Dean Pode. (Top and right photo by Sgt. Ron Raflik; bottom photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)*



**Soldiers and Airmen ask...**

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training, deployments, state or national awards, family or community events, new facilities, new equipment, unit reorganizations, unit history, military reunions or personnel information.

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles and information for publication to:

Editor, The Wolverine Guard  
2500 S. Washington Avenue  
Lansing, Michigan 48913  
(517) 483-5813  
DSN 623-0813

### **Teenagers Think** (continued from page 14)

college, my conversation quickly becomes about the college money available through the Guard and I mention, by name, the college nearest their hometown that is participating in the Tuition Grant Program. If the cadet is in awe of the military equipment, I let him or her know that we have that equipment in the Michigan Guard and that I can hook them up. Yes, I’m a salesman but I’m offering a good product.”

And good salesmen know where their target market is. “These kids have shown interest in the military by attending JROTC,” said Harris. “When I walk into a school to do a military presentation or when I stand behind a recruiting booth at the fair, the majority of my audience is simply not interested. But the JROTC program offers me a captivated audience where I can spend a week showing them the military and getting them to think about their future, versus a few minutes at the fair or on the school auditorium stage, ducking paper-wads.”

By the end of the two weeks, approximately half the cadets have filled-out Michigan National Guard “lead-cards.” This is significant considering, up until this point, most of them have only interacted with active duty personnel.

“Within two months of the camp, we had 22 enlistments,” said Harris. “And many of the leads are not even 17 years old yet so the number of enlistments will grow. We’ll stay in touch with each one of these kids throughout high school.”

### **Light Years Ahead** (continued from page 15)

marching in tight formations, sounding off in unison. Their heads are held a little higher, their backs a little straighter.

The third and final day begins with one more obstacle to the coveted graduation ceremony: the Army Physical Fitness Test. The test result will give both the individual and their unit an idea of what areas to work on to get physically ready for basic training.

Following the test, some soldiers realize they have only a little work to do, while others have more. Regardless of the amount, all walk away knowing where they stand.

Finally, the soldiers attend a short graduation ceremony and receive a certificate of completion. However, the certificate is the least thing these soldiers take home, for the knowledge and skills they’ve gained give them the tools to excel during basic training.

Pvt. Christina Hall, 1434th Quartermaster, is leaving a little less intimidated by the myths and stories of basic training. “[Because of BTOP] I’m not as afraid and it has prepared me for basic training.”



# Michigan Army Aviation Travels to Germany

*By Officer Candidate Kacie Foster-Merk  
State Public Affairs Office*

Determination and hard work can best describe what qualities Detachment 2, Company E, 106th Aviation, Grand Ledge needed for annual training this year. They conducted annual training at Coleman Army Airfield, Mannheim, Germany. Thirty-eight soldiers departed out of Lansing Capital City Airport by way of a C-130 aircraft from the West Virginia Air National Guard for a three-week stay in Germany. Upon arrival, the soldiers trained with an active Army unit based at Coleman Army Airfield. They assisted them in the completion of the AH-64 Apache Longbow fire-control radar project. With the Longbow system, Apaches can use their on-board computers to track more than 128 potential targets.

The objective was to prepare AH-64 Apache helicopters for shipment from Germany to the United States. The aircraft had to be disassembled, and shrink-wrapped, before being moved to a loading site located on the Rhine River where the aircraft were loaded onto barges.

"We weren't expected to complete the mission, but instead we finished it early," said Spc. John Kennedy. "We



were able to get new experience with aircraft we normally don't have the opportunity to work with. It was a great mission with memories and knowledge to pass to others."

The 106th also provided assistance in areas such as supply, personnel, computer support, logistics and helicopter maintenance.

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*Staff Sgt. Carlos Fuentes and Spc. Kibeet Chelilim (top) work in the aircraft engine repair shop and remove a compressor case half for inspection. The engine is a T-700 from the UH-60 Blackhawk.*

*Spc. John Kennedy, Spc. Mike McCombs and Pfc. Kirk Parker (center) radio the boat launch site with the number of helicopter and personnel entering the restricted area. The white object is an AH-64 Apache shrink-wrapped for shipping purposes.*

*Pfc. Michael Boyd and Sgt. Jose Miranda (bottom) assist in the loading of an AH-64 Apache onto barges for shipment to the United States.*



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## Hire a Vet

From Independence Day to Veterans Day, the Michigan Department of Career Development, with assistance from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, has been promoting military veterans through the Hire a Vet campaign. The campaign promotes the training, discipline and values that military members bring to the civilian work-force. The campaign poster shows two of Michigan National Guard's own: (top photo) Senior Airman Cherri Schroeder and Tech Sgt. Denice Rankin.



# SGLI coverage extends to family members

## Same benefits for Army and Air Guard

*By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker*  
*Air Force Print News*

WASHINGTON -- The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance will be extended to provide coverage to family members beginning Nov. 1.

The government has always had an excellent estate program to protect family members in case of a servicemember's death, said Maj. Jeffrey T. Keef, chief of Air Force military estate and special pays policy at the Pentagon. However, little has been available to provide the military member financial protection in the event of a family member's death. Under the new provisions, spouses and children will be automatically covered if the military member is an

SGLI participant, Keef said. The member will have the option to decline spouse coverage if submitted in writing.

The maximum automatic coverage is \$100,000 for a member's spouse, and any lesser amount must be evenly divisible by \$10,000, Keef said. However, the amount of coverage of a member's spouse cannot exceed the amount of coverage of the insuring member. Premiums for spouse coverage will be charged based upon spouse's age and will range from 9 cents to 55 cents per \$1,000 of coverage. For example, \$100,000 of coverage could be obtained on a spouse younger than 35 for \$9 per month.

There is also a policy conversion

option for the insured spouse after loss of eligibility for SGLI, he said. Children will be covered automatically for \$10,000, and no premiums will be charged the member, Keef said. In cases where both parents are eligible SGLI participants, the child may not be insured by more than one member. In the event of a family member's death, any insurance in effect will be paid to the insuring member. If the member passes away before payment can be made, then the amount will go to the people named as the member's beneficiaries.

To decline spouse coverage, submit SGLV Form 8286A through your unit no later than December 15, 2001. For more information, go to the SGLI homepage at [www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgl/sglfam.htm](http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgl/sglfam.htm).

**Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance - Spouse Coverage\***  
**Monthly Premium Rates - Effective Nov. 1, 2001**

Amount of Insurance	Age 29 & Below	Age 30-34	Age 35-39	Age 40-44	Age 45-49	Age 50-54	Age 55-59	Age 60-64	Age 65-69	Age 70 & Over
\$100,000	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$20.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
90,000	8.10	8.10	11.70	11.70	18.00	28.80	49.50	49.50	49.50	49.50
80,000	7.20	7.20	10.40	10.40	16.00	25.60	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
70,000	6.30	6.30	9.10	9.10	14.00	22.40	38.50	38.50	38.50	38.50
60,000	5.40	5.40	7.80	7.80	12.00	19.20	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00
50,000	4.50	4.50	6.50	6.50	10.00	16.00	27.50	27.50	27.50	27.50
40,000	3.60	3.60	5.20	5.20	8.00	12.80	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
30,000	2.70	2.70	3.90	3.90	6.00	9.60	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50
20,000	1.80	1.80	2.60	2.60	4.00	6.40	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
10,000	0.90	0.90	1.30	1.30	2.00	3.20	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50

**\*Guard members pay 80¢ per \$10,000, regardless of age or rank.**

## High Numbers (continued from page 14)

retention. "Keep in mind that even though NGB has shown us at or near the top, our score is only in the low 60s."

"General Taylor's end strength goal for fiscal year 2002 is 9,000," added Eitrem. "This is very aggressive, especially considering that FY-01 was the first time since 1988 that we have had a plus year."

To keep-up the momentum, recruiting and retention has invested energy into new, neglected or previously overlooked ideas, such as recruiting through college and

university orientation programs; an advertising program at motor-cross events with Swick Racing and Kowasaki Motors; a revamped recruit orientation program (see BTOP story on page 15); and a sponsorship role with the Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps program (see JROTC story on page 14).

"It is impossible to stay at the top by coasting," said Eitrem.

But this still only addresses half of the formula--recruiting. What about retention? Eitrem applies the "90-10 rule."

"The recruiting and retention command should be spending 90 percent of its time involved in recruiting and 10 percent in direct support to units for retention related activities. Units, on the other hand, should spend 90 percent of their time on retention and 10 percent on recruiting," said Eitrem.

But, according to Eitrem, this doesn't mean leaders should spend all their time on retention cards or talking about strength. "Retention is what you get when soldiers want to come to drill."

# Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

Through July 31, 2001

## Army Guard

### Col.

Anderson, James R.  
Cyrus, Walter R.  
Lanczy, Tibor J.

### Lt. Col.

Fulsher, Theodore F.  
Ivey, Mark J.  
Lebioda, Alan T.  
Sullivan, John T.  
White, Michael T.

### Maj.

Bidwell, Mark J.  
Estrada, Pablo Jr.  
Jones, Mary K.  
Potter, Stephen M.

### Capt.

Burton, Steven B.  
Chandler, Leatha B.  
Filoso, Christopher M.  
Gust, Steven C.  
Jennette, James D.  
Lombard, Robert A.  
McLellan, Donald L.  
Miller, Lowell T. II  
Ostrowski, Daniel L.  
Peraio, Daryl T.  
Snyder, Bruce E.  
Stemitz, Raymond J.  
Taylor, Rodney C.  
Turner, Michael R.

### 1st Lt.

Bell, Garrett D.  
Holwerda, Daniel J.  
Kenreich, Scott A.  
Kreider, Matthew S.  
McCall, Eric J.  
Rollins, George G. III

### 2nd Lt.

Gendreau, Michael P.  
Jennette, Jeffrey T.  
Knutson, Kimberly M.  
Roth, Jeffrey D.

### Warrant Officer Four

Cade, Corran J.  
Thomas, James L.  
Wood, Bryan S.

### Warrant Officer Three

Colvin, Ron J.  
Nelson, Theodore H.

### Warrant Officer Two

Sample, Roderick D.

### Warrant Officer One

Bledsoe, Daniel M.  
Conrad, Gregory L.  
Harris, Christopher H.  
King, Todd J.  
McGee, James R.

Miller, Dean M.

Tupa, Eric W.

### Master Sgt.

Beauchamp, Kimberly S.  
Graham, Jeffrey A.  
Herrera, Jose J. Jr.  
Kuehl, Paul D.  
Nichols, James L.  
Passick, Donald R.  
Sargeant, Stephen A.  
Schneider, Andrew J.  
Winchester, Tina M.

### Sgt. 1st Class

Ancrum, Crystal E.  
Arnold, Tim R.  
Austin, Rodney G.  
Baker, James A.  
Bennett, Martin L.  
Brooks, Tina M.  
Butler, John E.  
Chamberlain, Chad A.  
Flores, Oscar E.  
Folsom, David L. II  
Gingerick, George C.  
Gross, Danette L.  
Hill, David C.  
Martin, Thomas J. Jr.  
Newton, Lawrence A.  
Rose, Craig S.  
Smith, Michael G. Jr.  
Tornow, Charles E. Jr.  
Vaillancourt, Robert G.  
Vokes, Richard A.  
Wheeler, Bryan R.

### Staff Sgt.

Aho, Brian D.  
Allen, Dale S.  
Anderson, Brian O.  
Armfield, Derrick P.  
Baggett, Ivah R.  
Baldwin, David J.  
Bishop, William J.  
Blakeman, Charles E.  
Blood, Michael T.  
Booms, Shannon J.

Bramble, Matthew S.  
Buentello, Daniel A.  
Calio, Charles G.  
Chan, Stephen O.  
Chandler, Linda G.  
Chandler, Patrick J.  
Clanton, Karla D.  
Cooper, Joseph A.  
Coy, Christopher L.  
Dykes, Robert C.  
Eichler, Jason R.  
Fostermerck, Kacie G.  
Franks, Kenneth W.  
Fuentes, Robert  
Gadzinski, Michael D.  
Grundy, Lori M.  
Haluch, William C.  
Hanlon, Molly Jo  
Hefron, James W. II  
Hetzal, Andrew P.  
Hewitt, Paul D.  
Hill, George W.  
Isaac, Anthony  
Jaworski, Stephan A.  
Johnson, James M.  
Kelloniemi, Donald M.  
Kenward, Jeffrey T.  
Kraus, Mark T.  
Kuivinen, Bradley J.  
Lacoste, Keith L.  
Lafave, Thomas K.  
Lajoie, Anthony J.  
Landis, Scott A.  
Levens, Charles M. Jr.  
Light, Edwin A.  
Macdonald, Robert L., Jr.  
Maddix, James J., Jr.  
Martin, Anthony K.  
Mays, Lee D.  
McGee, Matthew A.  
Meadows, Jeremy S.  
Melton, Darwin R.  
Morton, Andrew J.  
Murphy, Daniel J.  
Nelson, David L., Jr.  
Nelson, William M.  
Noland, Scott M.  
Perkins, Cheryl A.  
Poole, Philip L.  
Reschke, Eric D.  
Robertson, Troy E.  
Runner, Rodney J.  
Rusaw, Robert D.  
Smith, Chad M.  
Smith, Douglas W.  
Solberg, Ross C.  
Stein, Jonathan R.  
Todd, Jacob D.  
Williams, Gregory B.  
Young, James A.

### Sgt.

Andino, Felix V., Jr.  
Barrows, Edwin J., Jr.  
Cahill, Aaron J.  
Carlson, Christopher R.  
Christensen, Joshua W.  
Christie, Heath R.

Clark, Jon C.  
Gervasio, Daniel A.  
Good, Jeffrey A.  
Gorgon, Jonathan C.  
Hammond, Michael D.  
Hanson, James D.  
Harlan, Jeremiah J.  
Hart, Ronald J.  
Harvey, Douglas L., Jr.  
Hoffmeyer, Anthony D.  
Langenbacher, Jason D.  
Lyon, Bruce A.  
Mabie, Michael A.  
Mattern, Paul G.  
Mccombs, Michael R.  
Montgomery, David A.  
Oakley Bryan K.  
Oros, John M.  
Post, Bart C.  
Stafford, David L.  
Smith, Matthew S.  
Szymanski, Matthew M.  
Umana, Eti E.  
Umphrey, Joshua B.  
Worden, Donald L. Jr.

### Spc.

Acosta, Francesca Y.  
Ahn, James  
Alberti, Dorothy A.  
Aldrich, William J., Jr.  
Anderson, Joshua J.  
Anderson, Shawn M.  
Bansemer, Ryan R.  
Becktel, Matthew R.  
Betts, Michael T.  
Bond, James J.  
Brandis, Kendra L.  
Brownell, Bradley A.  
Buckley, Jesse C.  
Burtch, Anton I.  
Buxto, Theodore G.  
Card, John J.  
Carlson, Christopher L.  
Carroll, Arron L.  
Coleman, Leeroy W.  
Crawford, Marcus A.  
Davis, David W.  
Depew, Marc A.  
Dipzinski, Andrew J.  
Dokes, Andre D.  
Drake, William J.  
Duong, Maloth  
Flores, Ezequiel J., Jr.  
Flury, Mark A.  
Fowler, Wendy M.  
Gayles, Stanhope, Jr.  
Geyser, Mollie E.  
Gibbons, Andrews C.  
Gohm, Craig A.  
Goodman, Darryl W.  
Gow, Anthony J.  
Griffith, Mark D.  
Hart, Brian P.  
Heusinkveld, Aaron R.  
Hickman, James W.  
Hicks, Jamieson E.  
Holton, Paul R.

Jason, Stewart K.  
Jean, Josue J.  
Jensen, John P.  
Juntunen, Ian M.  
Juozapaitis, Ryan  
Kemppainen, Brian J.  
Kolasz, Francoise M.  
Kumfer, Grant E.  
Lancaster, James C.  
Larry, Timothy J.  
Levey, Eric Daniel D.  
Link, Jeffery L.  
Lott, Jason P.  
Luokkala, Brandon P.  
Makinen, Shana L.  
Mapes, Robert A., Jr.  
Meder, Erik G.  
Meints, Brent R.  
Middleton, Kevin J.  
Mills, Nathaniel A.  
Mills, Preston J.  
Milton, Jason P.  
Morse, Bradley S.  
Oakley, Kenneth F.  
O'Brien, Patrick J. Jr.  
Parman, Eric T.  
Peacock, Edward E.  
Pendergraff, Joseph A.  
Polo, Joe R., Jr.  
Postma, Michael J.  
Pushee, Todd W.  
Quaine, Daniel M.  
Raymond, Jesse D.  
Reid, Crystal M.  
Reimer, Anthony W.  
Richardson, Evelyn J.  
Rivera, Josue  
Robertson, Gregory L.  
Root, Sarah B.  
Russeau, Robyn K.  
Sayles, April L.  
Schulz, Mary R.  
Sears, Brandon K.  
Shaw, Daniel M.  
Coleman, Leeroy W.  
Skaggs, Roger D.  
Smith, Jesse W.  
Stamour, Daniel T.  
Steinberg, Milton P.  
StJohn, Michael O., Jr.  
Stout, Jessica M.  
Tate, Michael K.  
Titus, Jeff E.  
Tonge, Amber L.  
Toupin, Karissa R.  
Tribfeller, Laurie B.  
Truax, David L.  
Turunen, Matthew J.  
Vanburen, Randall S.  
Vandervan, Chadwick R.  
Vining, Ryan M.  
Weber, Ryan R.  
Wells, SaintLaurence E.  
Whitgreave, Beverly B.  
Wightman, Paul W.  
Wilburn, Levoy W.  
Wilson, Jerry R. Jr.







Wise, Mitchell A.  
Wright, Laiche N.  
**Pvt. 1st Class**  
Abramson, Kurt R. Jr.  
Adams, Ann M.  
Assignack, Christopher  
Avis, Joseph S.  
Barnes, Jeffrey D.  
Beerens, Travis W.  
Blake, James S.  
Boyd, Matthew M.  
Boyd, Michael J.  
Bratic, Ljubomir  
Byrd, Lawrence D.  
Cleveland, Lauren R.  
Cole, Nathaniel P.  
Corlew, John M., Jr.  
Craven, Matthew W.  
Crawford, Matthew J.  
Cristini, Jeremy S.  
Dambeck, Rudolph P.  
DeLong, Sarah J.  
Deuel, Caleb R.  
Dorman, Sara E.  
Dunlap, John P.  
Duvall, Christopher R.  
Fountain, Tanna B.  
Green, Robert B.  
Grimsby, Joseph A.  
Gullett, Justin D.  
Haner, Philip R.  
Hardy, Dawn M.  
Harper, Lonnie R.  
Hart, George W.  
Hayes, Marty E., II  
Heise, Alice A.  
Holzberger, Karissa J.  
Hopkins, Kevin W.  
Howie, David M.  
Huizar, Gilberto J.  
Hundey, Nicholas D.  
Jacobs, Fredrick A.  
James, Matthew S.  
Jedele, Douglas E. II  
Justice, Derick G.  
Kasten, Kenneth A.  
Kaufman, Mathew R.  
Keehr, Brandon J.  
Kilpela, Ryan J.  
Knarian, Timothy S.  
Korff, Jason R.  
Krautner, Nicholas R.  
Labadie, Emily M.  
Larson, James B.  
Lesandrini, Kayla M.  
Lewis, Katrina E.  
Lindsay, Sarah N.  
Little, Brian K.  
Ludwick, Terrance W.  
Matula, Nikki A.  
Mayer, Ryan P.  
McCormic, Mick E.  
McGillen, Ronald L., Jr.

Meyer, Leonard M.  
Milligan, Nicholas J.  
Mitchell, Tracy A.  
Morcom, Sheena L.  
Morton, Craig A.  
Nickle, Dawn M.  
Parks, Joshua J.  
Parsons, Aaron M.  
Parzych, Marcus P.  
Paxton, Kenneth M.  
Reitmann, Darrin K.  
Robbins, Kurt A.  
Roberts, Blake A.  
Robertshicks, Bruce D.  
Roe, Chasta L.  
Romatz, Lucas A.  
Romero, Nicole S.  
Root, Aaron A.  
Ross, Charles W.  
Runyon, Edward J.  
Salo, Steven P.  
Schaub, Brian M.  
Schram, John M. III  
Sevigny, Trisha R.  
Sherrill, Kelly B.  
Singer, Henry D.  
Smith, Brandon J.  
Smith, Earl L., Jr.  
Smith, Shaun M.  
Soule, Brian L.  
Stevenson, Shatina E.  
Stidmon, Cody R.  
Stilson, Jean E.  
Timmons, Courtney B.  
Tiptonstone, Joshua G.  
Tremain, Ryan W.  
Triplett, Ryan L.  
Vliet, Mandilynn M.  
Vogel, Brian L. II  
Washington, Taylor J.  
Webber, Edward F.  
Weber, Steven J.  
Whipple, Brandon S.  
Williams, Keith R.  
Winters, Adam J.  
Wyckoff, Scott W.  
Zuzula, Donald G.

## Air Guard

**Col.**  
Eisenbrey, Arthur B.  
Johnston, Robert H.  
**Lt. Col.**  
Benefield, George H.  
Dawson, Brian E.  
Henry, Douglas J.  
Holly, John F.  
Latta, Clifford W. Jr.  
Macarty, Reed E.  
Smellie, Amy M.  
**Maj.**

Kitto, Michael J.  
Oswald, Eric J.  
Williams, Rodney  
**Capt.**  
Benson, Shelly L.  
Halstead, Todd S.  
Schaupeter, Ronald S.  
**1st Lt.**  
Mischler, Nora A.  
Ring, Kurtis P.  
**Chief Master Sgt.**  
Graham, William R.  
Landis, Phillip P.  
Robins, Aaron J.  
Stoner, Thomas A.  
**Senior Master Sgt.**  
Loser, John R.  
Robinson, Gregory  
Watkins, Ralph M.  
**Master Sgt.**  
Cabanting, Mario  
Cluney, Timothy D.  
Cope, Amanda K.  
Devers, Mark J.  
Hart, Michael T.  
Hayes, Joseph J.  
Hofman, Michael B.  
Lawrence, Randy A.  
Leslie, John  
Madill, Steven M.  
Matson, Randall C.  
Martinez, Daniel  
Norris, Steven M.  
Pence, Clarence  
Raona, Louis  
Schulte, Michael J.  
Sillence, Donald E.

Sperry, Louis S.  
Stuart, Jerri C.  
Wade, Timothy A.  
Ziskal, Yvonne G.  
**Tech. Sgt.**  
Archuleta, Tammy T.  
Barner, Robert A. Jr.  
Buchowski, Mary C.  
Canchola, Adrian J. Jr.  
Campbell, Thomas W.  
Colvin, Diane  
Cummings, Jeffrey E.  
Escott, Raymond R.  
Fetterman, Donald E.  
Fisher, Richard A. Jr.  
Floyd, Celeste  
Foley, Henry A.  
Fow, Mark  
Friedly, Richard A.  
Gonzalez, Juan M.  
Grider, Jay W.  
Jay, Gina M.  
Kane, James A.  
Kimbrough, Gerald  
Klik, Daniel  
Lawrence, David B.  
Lovelace, Denise A.  
Nacewicz, Anthony S.  
Reynolds, Timothy  
Schrock, Nicole R.  
Schroeder, Deborah  
Scott, Eric V.  
Sellers, Vivian A.  
Smith, Kathy  
Stratton, Wendy L.  
Talaga, Jeffrey R.  
Triestram, Gary S. Jr.

Tucker, Denise  
Walter, Ricky Lee  
Walters, David C.  
**Staff Sgt.**  
Becker, Wesley E.  
Biondi, Paul  
Bonnell, Jeff A.  
Cain, Charles  
Cassabon, Michelle  
Cline, Brandon  
Fetty, Glenn C.  
Gehringer, Joseph S.  
Henke, Brian P.  
Leblanc, Alan S.  
Parks, Dorman  
Remelius, Joshua  
Sibley, Joanne M.  
**Senior Airman**  
Bowles, Keith R.  
Brown, Casandra L.  
Francisco, Karla J.  
Garcia, Sandra M.  
Haven, Steven D.  
Johnston, Gordon J.  
Kettlehut, Kevin W.  
King, Raymond W. III  
Lorenz, Michael R.  
Milani, Nicolas E.  
Miles, Samuel T.  
Nagy, Matthew A.  
Nowaczck, Jeffery D.  
Vanlaan, Joshua R.  
Wyman, Katrina M.  
**Airman 1st Class**  
Kmetz, Thomas  
**Airman**  
Barrsuell, Jabett



## New Key Leaders

Col. Nicolas Szasz--Inspector General  
Lt. Col. David Augustine--110th Fighter Wing Vice Cmdr.  
Maj. Timothy Houchlei--Education Services Officer  
Master Sgt. Janet Weber--State Family Support Coordinator



## TAPS

Maj. Robert E. Fansler (ret), 72, Jan. 15, 2001  
Col Dennis C. Alm (ret), 63, Jan. 29, 2001  
Staff Sgt. Joseph F. Laurich (ret), 74, Feb. 5, 2001  
Lt. Col. Milo C. Thompson (ret), 76, Feb. 14, 2001  
Maj. Michael H. Johnson (ret), 57, Feb. 15, 2001  
Sgt. Maj. John E. Failing (ret), 72, Feb. 24, 2001  
Warrant Officer Four Leo M. Vito, Jr. (ret), 45, Mar. 4, 2001  
Warrant Officer Albert Blankenship (ret), 79, Mar. 16, 2001  
Brig. Gen. Leonard C. Ward (ret), 83, Mar. 20, 2001  
Lt. Col. Robert A. Walters (ret), 66, Mar. 23, 2001  
Sgt. 1st Class Lloyd G. Behl (ret), 76, Mar. 29, 2001  
Sgt. 1st Class James R. Bakeman (ret), 49, Mar. 30, 2001  
Sgt. Curtis J. Breton, 23, Apr. 20, 2001  
Tech. Sgt. Edward F. J. Weber (ret), 63, Apr. 23, 2001  
Spc. Anthony L. Covington, 38, Apr. 29, 2001

# Next Issue...

## The Guard's Response to Terrorism

### A Holy Mission

### Diversity

*Tech. Stg. Joe Slaght provides security at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center.  
(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dale Atkins)*

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Michigan Army and Air National Guard  
2500 S. Washington Avenue  
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